

Article X, section 1, of the Montana constitution requires the legislature to provide a basic system of free quality public elementary and secondary schools throughout the state of Montana that will guarantee equality of educational opportunity to all. Section 20-9-309 defines a basic system of free quality public elementary and secondary schools to include the eight components which are listed in the table below.

Components of a Basic System of Free Quality Public Schools	State Support through the BASE Budget	State Support outside the BASE Budget
The educational program specified by the accreditation standards provided for in <u>20-7-111</u> , which represent the minimum standards upon which a basic system of free quality public elementary and secondary schools is built	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Direct state aid</li> <li>• GF GTB</li> <li>• Quality educator payment</li> <li>• At-risk student payment</li> <li>• Indian education for all payment</li> <li>• American Indian achievement gap payment</li> <li>• Special education allowable cost payment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School Technology payments</li> <li>• Appropriations to OPI for statewide student assessment</li> <li>• Secondary vocational education payments</li> <li>• Student driver's education (not part of the accreditation standards)</li> </ul>
Educational programs to provide for students with special needs, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) a child with a disability, as defined in 20-7-401;</li> <li>(ii) an at-risk student;</li> <li>(iii) a student with limited English proficiency;</li> <li>(iv) a child who is qualified for services under 29 U.S.C. 794; and</li> <li>(v) gifted and talented children, as defined in 20-7-901</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State special education payments</li> <li>• At-risk student payment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gifted and talented programs</li> <li>• Instate residential treatment</li> <li>• Hearing conservation program</li> <li>• School Foods payment</li> </ul>
Educational programs to implement the provisions of Article X, section 1(2), of the Montana constitution and Title 20, chapter 1, part 5, through development of curricula designed to integrate the distinct and unique cultural heritage of American Indians into the curricula, with particular emphasis on Montana Indians;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Indian education for all payment per-ANB</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One-time only appropriation for Indian Education for All</li> <li>• Appropriations to OPI for Indian Education for All to develop instructional materials and facilitate professional development</li> </ul>
Qualified and effective teachers or administrators and qualified staff to implement the programs in subsections (2)(a) through (2)(c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality educator payment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Educator licensure standards</li> <li>• Stipends for national board certified teachers</li> <li>• County Retirement GTB</li> </ul>
Facilities and distance learning technologies associated with meeting the accreditation standards		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School facility payments</li> <li>• School technology payments</li> </ul>
Transportation of students		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State transportation</li> </ul>